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Former CIA Head To Be Grand Marshal For Daytona 500

George Bush, former director of the Central Intelligence Agency, will be Grand Marshal for the Daytona 500 Feb. 19, according to Bill France Sr., president of Daytona International Speedway.

Bush, who served as the director of the CIA from 1976 to 1977, now serves on the board of directors for several firms including Purolator Inc. and is also chairman of the executive committee of the First International Bank of Houston, Texas.

"We are honored and proud to have a man of this stature serve as Grand Marshal for this year's Daytona 500," France said in making the announcement. "He has served this country well and we are pleased to honor him."

While performing his duties as Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, Bush was awarded the National Intelligence Distinguished Service Medal, the Central Intelligence Agency Medal of Distinguished Service, the Central Intelligence Agency Medal of Merit and the National Security Medal, which was presented to Bush by former President Gerald Ford.

Before being appointed CIA director,



GEORGE BUSH

Bush was elected congressman for the Seventh District of Texas in 1966 and was re-elected for another term in 1968.

Bush was appointed chairman of the Republican National Committee in 1973 and served in 1974. Bush was chief of the U.S. Liaison Office in Peking before he was named to the CIA post.